



EASTER FASHIONS IN PARIS

FINAL ADJUSTMENT OF FRENCH STYLES FOR COMING SEASON.

The "Sun" Skirt—Something Entirely New and Charming to Vary the Accordion Monotony—Easter Hats Are Small and Flat, Yet the New Materials and Trimmings Make Them Both Gay and Conspicuous—The Blouse Refuses to Be Cling Tenaciously to the Old and Fancy Waist.

Paris, April, 1897.—Each one of the great dressmakers has his hobby, as thus, Doucet and Paquin adore godet skirts, which are detested by Felix, and these workroom quarrels may turn one's ideas topsy-turvy as to what is the fashion and what is not; it is, therefore, a relief when all hands are agreed on something, as they notably are now on the blouse. The efforts have been tremendous to get rid of the blouse, but it would not go. There is somewhere in this matter, a psychology that the reader may be pleased to work out. The blouse makes a part of all the new gowns. It fits with most dressmakers down close to the figure behind, and is full and bouffant in front, and to make the waist long may fall down through the middle entirely over the belt. It is made with a yoke, or it is made double-breasted, or it is open down the front over a gilet, the latter in combination with a linen flange collar, and it being the choice of the moment with women that are chic, it is trimmed up and down, and it is trimmed across, according to the figure or to the design of the skirt. It may have over it a bolero, and these are shorter than they were and are sometimes no more than pokers, or it may have flange and this only a bolero made long so as to go with a narrow belt, to which there is a very general return. It is carried in in burials, it is carried out in lace; it is worn at morning, noon and night, and on the subject of bodices this is the



Plaid Taffeta Covered With Canvas.

first and last and all there is to be said.

A novelty in material accepted by all hands is taffeta covered with a coarse square meshed canvas made especially for the purpose and introduced last winter for ball gowns. The canvas is neutral, that is to say is black, white or some color, and its mission is to tone down and shadow the color beneath and to furnish a ground of cross threads, on which designs of lace or embroidery are applied. It is the method of fancy work applied to dress. The results of this combination are shown in the illustrations below.

Taffetas that are made up by themselves are in stripes, in plaids and in rather large checks, shot grounds and flowered patterns having dropped quite out of sight. These designs are not in hard contrast as black and white, but in tints that merge softly, stripes that shade from dark blue through pale to white, alternations of shaded blue with shaded pink with white between, cross-bars of pink on a white ground with a pink and green rosebud in each square, ribbon stripes with purled edges and delicious patterns copied from the period between 1850 and 1860, that many readers know so well in the patchwork of their grandmothers.

A NEW SKIRT.

These silks are made with the skirt gored or in "sun" plaits, according to the design, trimmed with pinked ruffles or ruffles or velvet ribbon or appliques. A great many, perhaps the larger number, are plain. The "sun" skirt is one of the principal recent discoveries. It is made as follows, and the reader will see that it has no relation to the ordinary accordion, or side-plaited skirt or to any other skirt that has ever been heard of in christendom before. Sew together enough breadths

of the material to form a square twice the length that the skirt is to be and a little more, that is to say, if the skirt should have 12 inches in length when made, make the piece 100 inches square. Now, if with the finger and thumb you take hold of this piece at the center and draw it through the thumb and finger of the other hand, you will have an indication in gathers of what this skirt is when it is plaited. The plaits begin at the center and run out; they begin at nothing and widen. This plaiting is done on a machine, and after it is done the center is cut out and the edges are rounded off to suit the individual figure. This skirt, as will be seen, cannot be used for all patterns, notably for stripes and for those that have an up and down pattern.

While on the subject of skirts it will be useful to say that the best practice now in making a skirt with godets is to fit the material smooth around the widest part of the hips and from there down let it widen into as many or as few godets as are wanted, and from thence up to the belt let the slight fullness be fitted in with gathers, or with fine tucks running up and down, or be shirred down with one or more cords running around. All these methods of arranging the top are in use for thin materials. It goes without saying that the lining is separate from the outside, and gored smoothly round the belt.

SOME MODEL GOWNS.

A gown of plaid taffeta in blue and green covered with black canvas has a



Two French Spring Gowns.

double-breasted blouse with a ruffle of the plaid set down the edge at the side, beginning wide at the top and narrowing to nothing just way down. A ruffle of plaid stands at the neck round the back and a narrow twist of velvet in assorted color forms the belt. Nothing else, no trimming nor any is needed, the variety of color through the cross hatch being quite decoration enough.

Another plaid in lighter gray tones covered with twine color has the front of the skirt and the front of the blouse embellished with irregular patterns of twine colored lace applied on and the canvas cut out underneath, which, however, is bringing back to Newcastle—is quite in the spirit of the mode. To place these detached pieces of lace effectively in an art.

A gown of myrtle green covered with black canvas is trimmed with black velvet ribbon. The skirt has three clusters of bands in velvet of graduated widths, each cluster beginning with a velvet ruche, the whole extending two-thirds of the way up to the belt. The blouse of the taffeta has the canvas put on to form a low-necked effect, with a sort of yoke collar above and the two joined over the silk with a lattice work of velvet.

Some novel effects of trimming are got with this canvas, as for example a black satin gown has the front breadth trimmed with a green ribbon covered with black canvas. The ribbon is five inches wide; it runs across near the bottom, folds over and makes a diagonal running part way up to the belt in a graceful twisted curve, with the end cut into two long points. It is then covered with the canvas and edged all round with narrow embroidery. This is one of Felix's designs.

In the 50s they wore flounced skirts, and as I have said here before they may wear them again, though the matter is problematical still up to this date. Here is a model for one. The foundation is red taffeta. The skirt is three overlapping godet flounces, each flounce covered with black canvas edged with a band of lace, the lower edge of the lace coming to the edge of the silk, the two being fastened together. This makes a beautiful skirt. There is a bolero made to match the flounces, with a band of the insertion all round just above the edge, and this is worn over a black lace blouse.

Come now to the silks made up by themselves. One of gray and black stripes has three ruffles on the skirt, made the straight way of the cloth, pinked and gathered, and each one headed by a band of embroidery in black, white and silver, headings that may be replaced by a ruche made of plain black and plain white silk, put together. The blouse is open down the front over a gilet of white organdie barred with mauve, and each side of the opening is edged with a pinked ruffle headed to match the skirt.

Another gown has the skirt in rose and gray shaded stripes on a white ground, made with plain godets. With this is a black satin bolero with sleeves covered with black lace, and a blouse of white mousseline. Another has a sun skirt of black satin, a

figure of the same with white embroidery on the front, and a blouse of white barred with yellow.

THE MILLINERY.

It is a pity the authorities waited so long to bestir themselves about the big hat. It is now out of fashion. The Easter hats are small, round and reasonably flat.

The end and chief aim of a hat, as everybody knows, is to make people stare, and now that the size is reduced to commonplace it might well have seemed that all resource was gone. Not at all. The millinery reservoir has a spring at the bottom and it never dries up.

The novelty is now in the materials. Imagine a hat of woven horse hair; imagine again a hat of shirred mousseline de soie, or one of black spangled tulle, with ornaments of white lace applied on it after the manner of the gowns. And these are only specimens. Hats are made of everything that would have seemed impossible, and instead of their looking queer one wonders at the stupidity that never thought of them before.

For these hats are a great success. Thus the horse hair, in a light green, is trimmed with a binding of black velvet, three black velvet folds round the crown, a bouquet of black plumes with one white one rising toward the back, and white roses and fireworks of black velvet at the back. The one of shirred taffeta, silk only in the trim, is of pale gray-blue, with the foundation crown covered with roses in blue

is perfectly true; not that marriage is in demand, but that it is good form nowadays to do the thing without any fuss. The prospective bride orders traveling gown of plain cloth, just such a one as would have been given to Madame Anybody for the street. And the bridal underwear is no longer a story of a thousand and one nights;



Dotted Blue Silk.

it is no more than any one who keeps up her wardrobe would have at any one time.

Half a dozen of each, trimmed with tucks and valenciennes, this is the whole matter in a nutshell. Now, the same matter expanded according to the underwear makers runs something like this: The chemise should be cut to fit round the shoulders without any gathers, with a strap over the shoulder, all in the same piece, and with no sleeves. Thus cut it is trimmed with a wide falling ruffle that entirely covers the strap, sewed under the lower edge of a narrow band that serves as a stay. The ruffle is of lace, or it is of tucking edged with lace.

The drawers, made to match the chemise, are very lightly gathered, and are short enough to have the trimming very deep. The trimming is a wide ruffle or it is a piece all in tucks running up and down, with the edge left to ruffle, and is open at the side, to allow the lace to run up to the band. The fashion continues to make them very short, and with the trimming included they scarcely reach over the knee.

The nightgown model at present most liked has a large flowing collar, with a very wide ruffle, giving a vague and negligee effect. The ruffle may be of lace or it may be of tucks or embroidery, or it may be edged with a color. The sleeves, in harmony, are full and have a wide ruffle gathered into the narrowest possible band.

In a corset cover the chief merit is that it takes up no room under the gown and, therefore, it should have nothing, not even tucks, added, but it should be enriched only with lace or embroidery or lace. Many women have discarded this garment.

In petticoats both colored silk and white muslin are worn. The white ones, made of fine batiste, with a deep flounce, and both the skirt and the flounce elaborated with lace and ruffles and tucks, making in reality two skirts, each trimmed differently, one over the other. The latest novelty in trimming is cross tucks; this is to say, when the batiste is all in tucks running across, then tuck it up and down, which gives squareness. It is exquisite, also it is a work of labor and time.

ADA CONE.

EASTER DISHES.

Some Delicious Egg Salads and Entrees Served in the Shell.

The evolution of charming gifts and table delicacies from eggs is not always so difficult as one might suppose.

First, to prepare the shells to use as moulds, puncture a small hole in the top of the egg, carefully enlarging it to the size of a dime. A sharp pair of tiny scissors will help in the operation. Pour out the contents, which can be saved for cooking.

Next wash the egg-shells in warm, salted water, and, being sure they are thoroughly clean the inside of the shells. A bit of sponge tied to the end of a small stick can be utilized for this purpose. Rinse with clear water, and stand the shell up on the open end to dry. It will be found convenient in filling the shells if they are placed so as to stand perfectly secure during the operation. This may be done by making round openings in the bottom of an inverted pasteboard box. Draw circles about the size of half a dollar over the pasteboard, and cut these circles out with a sharp knife. If the box is about an inch deep, the eggs, when placed in the round openings, will rest on the table or shelf underneath the box. A box of oats also answers the purpose. Place the shells in the oats, and fill them from a pitcher.

Salad eggs, with rarebit eggs, cake and jelly eggs are among Easter favorites and by using egg shells as moulds, many table delicacies may be prepared. The eggs, when placed in the round openings, will rest on the table or shelf underneath the box. A box of oats also answers the purpose. Place the shells in the oats, and fill them from a pitcher.

To make salad eggs, select fresh eggs, with firm shells, and make a small opening in one end of each. With a small spoon, stir up the contents of each, pouring out very little. Have minced ham at hand, and put some of it, with a little salt, pepper and mustard, in the egg, adding a drop of vinegar. After thoroughly mixing each egg, place them, open end up, in a pan, so tightly together that they will support each other; pour water in around the eggs and boil until thoroughly hard. Before serving, remove the shells.

For Welsh rarebit eggs, take melted cream cheese, salt, pepper, mustard and a little milk, and mix together. Roll the eggs in the mixture, and bake in the oven, taking care to put water in the pan.

Any kind of cake dough may be poured into shells, leaving space for rising and after baking remove the shells, and roll them in frosting. For fruit eggs, boil fruit juices—berry, for instance—until hardened, and the cherries, pour into egg shells and when hardened remove the shells and you have a toothsome morsel.

Know Where to Look.

Tip-Hits: She—"Are you sure it was a year today that we became engaged?" He—"Yes, I looked it up in my check book this morning."

A POLITICAL LEAGUE.

The Non-Partisan, Non-Suffrage, Common Sense Studies Carried On by New York Women Under Able Instructors.

New York, April 16.—The most intelligent and cultivated women of New York are now distinctly taking the lead in a line of study and investigation that ought to be followed by the women of every city and village in the country.

It is a fact that while American men, as a rule, keep track of the politics of their nation, American women remain from first to last in the densest ignorance of matters of state; whereas English women, especially among aristocratic circles, all know their country's politics, though they may not be politicians. Indeed, the woman who does not keep abreast of the times politically in England is socially quite "out of it."

Realizing their appalling limitations along these lines, a few of New York's progressive women started a league for the purpose of political education, beginning with a study of their own special precincts; and if the women of New York have the courage and persistence to master the detail of the municipal affairs of the great metropolis, surely the women of smaller towns need not shrink from making the effort to thoroughly inform themselves upon their own municipal government.

For the benefit of women in other cities who may wish to establish similar organizations, a brief outline of the methods that obtain in New York will be given.

Like all great movements, the idea originated amongst a little knot of individuals, met together for a mutual exchange of information and ideas. The society now numbers over 300 members, and has special classes every day in the week.

The object of the league is political enlightenment, pure and simple. The subject of women's suffrage is never so much as hinted at. The matter of sex is entirely ignored; indeed, the work done has been found to be of so high an order, that men have asked for the privilege of joining the association, and have been taken in. The work is absolutely non-partisan, the advantages and disadvantages of both sides of every question being clearly set forth; and if a prominent speaker takes up one side of any question at issue one week, he is sure to be followed the next week by an equally strong man on the other side.

SCOPE OF THE LEAGUE'S WORK.

The fundamental idea of the work is to begin with affairs nearest home. Each woman shall first inform herself upon everything connected with her own assembly district, how it is bounded, what offices it contains, who the officers are, what their duties and how fulfilled, the number of churches, saloons, etc., their conditions and influences for good and evil. She must know her own street commissioner, health commissioner, etc. In fact, each member of the league is expected to make herself intelligent upon all forces for good and evil in her own social neighborhood. After this comes the study of the city as a whole, then the politics of the state, and finally the federal government.

The membership fee is \$2, which entitles one to many free classes and lectures and to the use of the library, which contains the best known books upon social and political subjects. Non-members may attend the larger part of the league's lectures by the payment of a small admission fee.

Notable among the free privileges for members are the Friday morning classes in parliamentary law, conducted by Miss Adele M. Fields, and the Saturday morning addresses by prominent men upon the important issues of the day. The best books used are Walker's "Brief Course in Political Economy" and Perry's "Principles of Political Economy," both standard books at Oxford and Cambridge. The study of Bryce's "Commonwealth" and Fiske's "Civil Government of the United States" also constitute important parts of the course. Sections of the chief justice, associate justices, etc. When she came to the senate and house of representatives she is supposed to know only New York senators, Republicans and Democrats. After the same manner she fills out blank spaces left for her knowledge of the city of New York, then her own special assembly district. Finally, she may write on the political issues of the last campaign.

Pamphlets similar in design could be gotten out for any state, and when a woman can fill up the blank spaces in such a pamphlet satisfactorily, she has a pretty good foundation upon which to work.

DETAILS OF THE WORK.

For other courses it has been found necessary to charge even members a small fee, sometimes 25 cents a course, or from 25 to 35 cents for a single address. Among these, the Monday classes conducted by Mrs. Runkle, giving its attention to history in the making, following the world's progress as it unfolds week by week, and paying special attention to domestic and foreign politics, and to the various social movements of the times.

There are primary classes in parliamentary law, and advanced classes for parliamentary practice. The amount and quality of work done for the purpose of testing the accuracy and extent of her knowledge. She may fill in from memory all the offices of the federal



KING OF THE EASTER SUNDAY FEAST.

ed States" also constitute important parts of the course. Sections of the chief justice, associate justices, etc. When she came to the senate and house of representatives she is supposed to know only New York senators, Republicans and Democrats. After the same manner she fills out blank spaces left for her knowledge of the city of New York, then her own special assembly district. Finally, she may write on the political issues of the last campaign.

HOUSEWIVES—Please remember

you take no risks in using Three Crown Baking Powder. Triple Flavoring Extracts and Pure Ground Spices, for they are strictly guaranteed of the very best quality or money cheerfully refunded. Why not give them a trial?

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures Consumption (which is Scrofula of the Lungs), by its wonderful blood-purifying, invigorating and nutritive properties. For weak Lungs, Spitting of Blood, Shortness of Breath, Nasal Catarrh, Bronchitis, Severe Coughs, Asthma, and kindred affections, it is a sovereign remedy. While it promptly cures the Cough, it strengthens the system and purifies the blood.

Excellent little pamphlets with blank spaces to be filled out, are placed in the hands of each member for the purpose of testing the accuracy and extent of her knowledge. She may fill in from memory all the offices of the federal

government, beginning with the president, going through the cabinet, naming the chief justice, associate justices, etc. When she came to the senate and house of representatives she is supposed to know only New York senators, Republicans and Democrats. After the same manner she fills out blank spaces left for her knowledge of the city of New York, then her own special assembly district. Finally, she may write on the political issues of the last campaign.

Pamphlets similar in design could be gotten out for any state, and when a woman can fill up the blank spaces in such a pamphlet satisfactorily, she has a pretty good foundation upon which to work.

DETAILS OF THE WORK.

For other courses it has been found necessary to charge even members a small fee, sometimes 25 cents a course, or from 25 to 35 cents for a single address. Among these, the Monday classes conducted by Mrs. Runkle, giving its attention to history in the making, following the world's progress as it unfolds week by week, and paying special attention to domestic and foreign politics, and to the various social movements of the times.

There are primary classes in parliamentary law, and advanced classes for parliamentary practice. The amount and quality of work done for the purpose of testing the accuracy and extent of her knowledge. She may fill in from memory all the offices of the federal

government, beginning with the president, going through the cabinet, naming the chief justice, associate justices, etc. When she came to the senate and house of representatives she is supposed to know only New York senators, Republicans and Democrats. After the same manner she fills out blank spaces left for her knowledge of the city of New York, then her own special assembly district. Finally, she may write on the political issues of the last campaign.

Pamphlets similar in design could be gotten out for any state, and when a woman can fill up the blank spaces in such a pamphlet satisfactorily, she has a pretty good foundation upon which to work.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures Consumption (which is Scrofula of the Lungs), by its wonderful blood-purifying, invigorating and nutritive properties. For weak Lungs, Spitting of Blood, Shortness of Breath, Nasal Catarrh, Bronchitis, Severe Coughs, Asthma, and kindred affections, it is a sovereign remedy. While it promptly cures the Cough, it strengthens the system and purifies the blood.

Excellent little pamphlets with blank spaces to be filled out, are placed in the hands of each member for the purpose of testing the accuracy and extent of her knowledge. She may fill in from memory all the offices of the federal

government, beginning with the president, going through the cabinet, naming the chief justice, associate justices, etc. When she came to the senate and house of representatives she is supposed to know only New York senators, Republicans and Democrats. After the same manner she fills out blank spaces left for her knowledge of the city of New York, then her own special assembly district. Finally, she may write on the political issues of the last campaign.

Pamphlets similar in design could be gotten out for any state, and when a woman can fill up the blank spaces in such a pamphlet satisfactorily, she has a pretty good foundation upon which to work.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures Consumption (which is Scrofula of the Lungs), by its wonderful blood-purifying, invigorating and nutritive properties. For weak Lungs, Spitting of Blood, Shortness of Breath, Nasal Catarrh, Bronchitis, Severe Coughs, Asthma, and kindred affections, it is a sovereign remedy. While it promptly cures the Cough, it strengthens the system and purifies the blood.

Excellent little pamphlets with blank spaces to be filled out, are placed in the hands of each member for the purpose of testing the accuracy and extent of her knowledge. She may fill in from memory all the offices of the federal

government, beginning with the president, going through the cabinet, naming the chief justice, associate justices, etc. When she came to the senate and house of representatives she is supposed to know only New York senators, Republicans and Democrats. After the same manner she fills out blank spaces left for her knowledge of the city of New York, then her own special assembly district. Finally, she may write on the political issues of the last campaign.

Pamphlets similar in design could be gotten out for any state, and when a woman can fill up the blank spaces in such a pamphlet satisfactorily, she has a pretty good foundation upon which to work.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures Consumption (which is Scrofula of the Lungs), by its wonderful blood-purifying, invigorating and nutritive properties. For weak Lungs, Spitting of Blood, Shortness of Breath, Nasal Catarrh, Bronchitis, Severe Coughs, Asthma, and kindred affections, it is a sovereign remedy. While it promptly cures the Cough, it strengthens the system and purifies the blood.

Easter Time Anthems

Deal on! Oh Easter chimes of air,
Oh April breeze singing!
Jehovah plays his anthem rare,
While Angel voices sing.

Each budding flower doth give its grace,
Each zephyr sings its lay—
Each nascent leaf doth turn its face,
To lend its tiniest sway.

O'ersee thing sea, o'er limb strewn land,
Storms hold their mighty sway—
All nature is the organ grand,
His guiding touch doth play.

F. Freytag.